

## In The Claims

Kindly amend the following claims.

40. (Currently amended) A paint brush handle comprising:

a) a head section including a shoulder end, a brush end, a brush edge and a shoulder surface, said brush end of said head section for receiving a brush head, and said head section being substantially planar and oriented along a brush plane;

b) an elongated handle section oriented substantially along a handle axis and handle plane, said handle axis and said brush plane are substantially parallel to each other and spaced at an offset distance; and

c) a transition means for rigidly connecting said shoulder end of said head section to one end of said handle section; and

d) wherein said head section being flared, such that said head section being wider proximate said brush end and narrowing toward said transition section.

41. (Currently amended) ~~The paint brush handle claimed in claim 1 wherein said brush edge oriented substantially parallel to and spaced from said handle plane.~~

A paint brush handle comprising:

a) a head section including a shoulder end, a brush end, a brush edge and a shoulder surface, said brush end of said head section for receiving a brush head, and said head section being substantially planar and oriented along a brush plane;

b) an elongated handle section oriented substantially along a handle axis and handle plane, said handle axis and said brush plane are substantially parallel to each other and spaced at an offset distance;

c) a transition means for rigidly connecting said shoulder end of said head section to one end of said handle section; and

d) wherein said transition section tapering, being wider proximate said head section and narrower proximate said handle section.

42. Cancel claim 42

43. Cancel claim 43

44. (Currently amended) The paint brush handle claimed in claim 40 or 41 + wherein said handle section being substantially oblong in cross section, with the longer oblong portion substantially parallel to said brush plane.

45. (Currently amended) The paint brush handle claimed in claim 40 or 41 + wherein said handle section being substantially elliptical in cross section, with the longer elliptical portion substantially parallel to said brush plane.

46. (Currently amended) The ergonomic paint brush handle claimed in claim 40 or 41 + wherein said transition means comprises a transition section rigidly attached at one end to said shoulder end of said head section, and at the other end to one end of said handle section, said transition section being oriented longitudinally along a transition axis which is disposed at an angle theta relative to said brush plane.

Cancel claims 47 to 57.

58. (New) A paint brush comprising:

a) a handle and an attached brush head;

b) said handle including a head section including a shoulder end, a brush end, a brush edge and a shoulder surface, said brush end of said head section for receiving the brush head, and said head section being substantially planar and oriented along a brush plane;

c) said handle including an elongated handle section oriented substantially along a handle axis and handle plane, said handle axis and said brush plane are substantially parallel to each other and spaced at an offset distance;

d) said handle including a transition means for rigidly connecting said shoulder end of said head section to one end of said handle section; and

e) wherein said head section being flared, such that said head section being wider proximate said brush end and narrowing toward said transition section.

59. (New) A paint brush comprising:

a) a handle and an attached brush head;

b) said handle including a head section including a shoulder end, a brush end, a brush edge and a shoulder surface, said brush end of said head section for receiving the brush head, and said head section being substantially planar and oriented along a brush plane;

c) said handle including an elongated handle section oriented substantially along a handle axis and handle plane, said handle axis and said brush plane are substantially parallel to each other and spaced at an offset distance;

d) said handle including a transition means for rigidly connecting said shoulder end of said head section to one end of said handle section; and

e) wherein said transition section tapering, being wider proximate said head section and narrower proximate said handle section.

60. (New) The paint brush claimed in claim 58 or 59 wherein said handle section being substantially oblong in cross section, with the longer oblong portion substantially parallel to said brush plane.

61. (New) The paint brush claimed in claim 58 or 59 wherein said handle section being substantially elliptical in cross section, with the longer elliptical portion substantially parallel to said brush plane.

62. (New) The paint brush claimed in claim 58 or 59 wherein said transition means comprises a transition section rigidly attached at one end to said shoulder end of said head section, and at the other end to one end of said handle section, said transition section being oriented longitudinally along a transition axis which is disposed at an angle  $\theta$  relative to said brush plane.